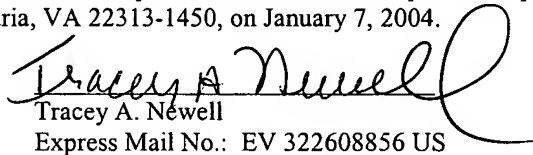


**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant:	Kenneth W. Cowan, et al.	:	
		:	
Serial No.:	Not yet assigned	:	Examiner: Not yet assigned
		:	
Filed:	January 7, 2004	:	Art Unit: Not yet assigned
		:	
For:	TECHNIQUES FOR SOFTWARE CONFIGURATION TRACKING	:	Atty. Docket: NUM-02402
		:	

**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING**

I hereby certify that the foregoing document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, postage prepaid, "Post Office to Addressee", in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on January 7, 2004.

  
Tracey A. Newell  
Express Mail No.: EV 322608856 US

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 4  
of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 22 of this paper.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those which may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required for consideration of this paper (including fees for net addition of claims) are authorized to be charged in two originally-executed copies of an Amendment Transmittal Letter filed herewith.